

I am writing with great concern about the Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Bill which I believe is a threat to the freedom of expression held dear by Australians. What price being free to think if we cannot toss those thoughts about among ourselves and others? Most of us would never intentionally offend somebody, but *this is life - offence happens* and we just have to get on with it.

The concept of being guilty until proven innocent immediately gives the upper hand to a devout liar accusing an innocent person of causing offence, and using this law to *horrendously* offend that innocent person - albeit indirectly. A very sneaky backhand kind of offence which could become legal.

Perhaps Nicola Roxon could find something a little more positive to pour her talents into - it would truly be a terrible legacy for her to leave this bill behind when she exits parliament.

Celia McCoy